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NECESSITY OF ADOPTING EFFECTIVE MEASURES FOR THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHO ARE VICTIMS OF ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING ARMED CONFLICTS

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.40

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under operative paragraphs 7 and 9 the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to appoint an expert, working in collaboration with the Centre for Human Rights and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to undertake a comprehensive study of this question, including the participation of children in armed conflict, as well as the relevance and adequacy of existing standards, and to make specific recommendations on ways and means of improving the protection of children in armed conflicts and on measures to ensure effective protection of these children and to promote their physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration, taking into account the recommendations by the World Conference on Human Rights and the Committee on the Rights of the Child;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on this study to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session.

B. Relationship of the request to the proposed programme of work

2. The above request is related to major programme VII, Human rights, fundamental freedoms and humanitarian affairs, programme 35, Promotion and protection of human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised. 1/ Related activities are reflected under subprogramme 2, Elimination

and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups, of section 21, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. 2/

C. Activities by which the request would be implemented

3. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.40, the Secretary-General would appoint an expert to undertake the requested study. This expert would work in collaboration with the Centre for Human Rights and UNICEF. The expert would undertake three trips to Geneva, each for a period of five working days, in order to hold consultations at the Centre for Human Rights, to review documentation and other pertinent material received and to consult with Governments and non-governmental organizations. The expert would present the progress report requested in operative paragraph 9 to the General Assembly and consult with UNICEF.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for 1994-1995

4. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.40 the following activities would be included under subprogramme 2, Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups, of section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995:

(a) Parliamentary services: progress report to the General Assembly on the study of means of protecting children in armed conflicts.

E. Additional requirements at full costs

5. The estimated cost of the above activity is as follows:

	$
Three round trips to Geneva by the expert for consultation at the Centre for Human Rights (five days each)	
Travel and subsistence	11 500
Round trip to New York by the expert to present his report to the General Assembly (five days)	3 500
Total	15 000

F. Potential for absorption

6. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 includes no provision for the activities outlined above, but it is anticipated that the related estimates of $15,000 could be absorbed within the resources proposed for 1994-1995 under section 21, Human rights.

7. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.40, no additional appropriation would be required under section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

Notes

1/ A/47/6/Rev.1.

2/ A/48/6 (sect. 21).